Amendment to the Claims

Please amend Claims 26 and 28 to read as follows.

1.   (Previously Amended) A method of scheduling items of information, each item of information having an associated priority which is a function of time, said method comprising the steps of:

(a)   scheduling items of information in accordance with values of the priorities;

(b)   activating a user interrupt in response to user input; and

(c)   rescheduling items of information in accordance with the values of the priorities at a time after termination of the user interrupt.

2.   (Previously Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said activating step (b) comprises (b)(i) estimating a time when the user input will terminate, and said rescheduling step (c) comprises (c)(i) rescheduling items of information in accordance with the values of the priorities at the estimated time.

3.   (Previously Amended) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein, if the user is still interacting at the end of the estimated time, said method repeats said estimating step (b)(i) and said rescheduling step (c)(i) for a further estimated time.

4.   (Previously Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein one or more of the priorities are dependent upon one or more parameters as a function of time.

5.   (Previously Amended) A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein one of the priorities is dependent upon a location or a distance from a given location.

6.   (Previously Amended) A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein one of the priorities is dependent upon a frequency that the associated item of information is displayed.

7.   (Previously Amended) A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein one of the priorities is dependent upon a time since the associated item of information was last displayed.

8.   (Previously Amended) A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein one of the priorities is dependent upon a number of times the associated item of information has been displayed.

9.   (Previously Amended) A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein one of the priorities is dependent upon on a cost of the associated item of information.

10. (Previously Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

monitoring the user input; and

generating a user profile based upon the monitoring.

11. (Previously Amended) A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein one of the priorities is dependent upon the user profile.

12. (Previously Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said scheduling step (a) comprises:

(a)(i) determining a maximum priority of all of the priorities of the items of information at a next available time for display;

(a)(ii) scheduling the item of information associated with the determined maximum priority as an item of information to be displayed at the next available time; and

(a)(iii) repeating steps (a)(i) and (a)(ii) for the next available time.

13. (Previously Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said rescheduling step (c)(i) comprises:

(c)(i)(1) determining a maximum priority of all of the priorities of the items of information at a next available time for display;

(c)(i)(2) rescheduling the item of information associated with the determined maximum priority as an item of information to be displayed at the next available time; and

(c)(i)(3) repeating steps (c)(i)(1) and (c)(i)(2) for the next available time.

14.   (Previously Amended) A method of displaying items of information on a display apparatus comprising a display unit and an user interface, each item of information having an associated priority which is a function of time, said method comprising the steps of:

(a)   scheduling items of information in accordance with values of the priorities;

(b)   generating a user interrupt in response to a user interacting with the user interface;

(c)   clearing the scheduled items of information in response to the user interrupt;

(d)   estimating a time when the user will finish interacting with the user interface;

(e)   rescheduling items of information in accordance with the values of the priorities at the estimated time;

(f)   repeating steps (d) to (e), if the user is still interacting with the user interface at the estimated time; and

(g)   displaying the scheduled information according to priority, if the user is not interacting with the user interface at the estimated time.

15.   (Previously Amended) A method as claimed in claim 14, wherein one or more of the priorities are dependent upon one or more parameters as a function of time.

16.   (Previously Amended) A method as claimed in claim 15, wherein one of the priorities is dependent upon a location or a distance from a given location.

17.   (Previously Amended) A method as claimed in claim 15, wherein one of the priorities is dependent upon a frequency that the associated item of information is displayed.

18.   (Previously Amended) A method as claimed in claim 15, wherein one of the priorities is dependent upon a time since the associated item of information was last displayed.

19.   (Previously Amended) A method as claimed in claim 15, wherein one of the priorities is dependent upon a number of times the associated item of information has been displayed.

20.   (Previously Amended) A method as claimed in claim 15, wherein one of the priorities is dependent upon on a cost of the associated item of information.

21.   (Previously Amended) A method as claimed in claim 14, wherein said method further comprises:

monitoring the user interaction with the user interface; and

generating a user profile based upon the monitoring.

22.   (Previously Amended) A method as claimed in claim 21, wherein one of the priorities is dependent upon the user profile.

23.   (Previously Amended) A method as claimed in claim 14, wherein said scheduling step (a) comprises:

(a)(i)   determining a maximum priority of all of the priorities of the items of information at a next available time for display;

(a)(ii) scheduling the item of information associated with the determined maximum priority as an item of information to be displayed at the next available time; and

(a)(iii) repeating steps (a)(i) and (a)(ii) for the next available time.

24.   (Previously Amended) A method as claimed in claim 14, wherein said rescheduling step (e) comprises:

(e)(i)   determining a maximum priority of all of the priorities of the items of information at a next available time for display;

(e)(ii) rescheduling the item of information associated with the determined maximum priority as an item of information to be displayed at the next available time; and

(e)(iii) repeating steps (e)(i) and (e)(ii) for the next available time.

25. (Previously Amended) An apparatus that schedules items of information, each item of information having an associated priority which is a function of time, said apparatus comprising:

means for scheduling items of information in accordance with values of the priorities;

means for activating a user interrupt in response to user input; and

means for rescheduling items of information in accordance with the values of the priorities at a time after termination of the user interrupt.

26. (Currently Amended) An apparatus that displays items of information on a display apparatus, the display apparatus comprising a display unit and a user interface, each item of information having an associated priority which is a function of time, said apparatus comprising:

scheduler means for scheduling items of information in accordance with values of the priorities;

generator means for generating a user interrupt in response to a user interacting with the user interface;

clearance means for clearing the scheduled items of information in response to the user interrupt;

estimation means for estimating a time when the user will finish interacting with the user interface;

rescheduler means for scheduling items of information in accordance with the values of the priorities at the estimated time;

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repetition means for repeating the operations of the estimation means and the rescheduler means, if the user is still interacting with <u>the</u> user interface at the estimated time; and

display means for displaying the scheduled information according to priority, if the user is not interacting with <u>the</u> user interface at the estimated time.

27.   (Previously Amended) A computer readable medium storing a computer program for scheduling items of information, each item of information having an associated priority which is a function of time, the computer program comprising:

code for scheduling items of information in accordance with values of the priorities;

code for activating a user interrupt in response to user input; and

code for rescheduling items of information in accordance with the values of the priorities at a time after termination of the user interrupt.

28.   (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium storing a computer program for displaying items of information on a display apparatus, the display apparatus comprising a display unit and a user interface, each item of information having an associated priority which is a function of time, the computer program comprising:

scheduler code for scheduling items of information in accordance with values of the priorities;

generator code for generating a user interrupt in response to a user interacting with the user interface;

clearance code for clearing the scheduled items of information in response to the user interrupt;

estimation code for estimating a time when the user will finish interacting with the user interface;

rescheduler code for rescheduling items of information in accordance with the values of the priorities at a the estimated time;

repetition code for repeating the operations of the estimation code and the rescheduler code, if the user is still interacting with the user interface at the estimated time; and

display code for displaying the scheduled information according to priority, if the user is not interacting with the user interface at the estimated time.